



STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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For Immediate Release

Excise Police Announces Mid-Year Alcohol Compliance Rates

INDIANAPOLIS (July 25) – The number of Indiana businesses willing to sell alcohol to minors continues to be at an all-time low as a result of inspections by Indiana State Excise Police.

From Jan. 1-Sept. 30, 2011, excise officers working with underage youth in the Survey for Alcohol Compliance conducted 4,923 inspections, with 252 failures – a 5.4% failure rate. That's down slightly from the same period last year – 5.5%.

The Survey for Alcohol Compliance employs underage youth participants, who attempt to purchase alcohol under the supervision of a plainclothes excise officer.

Since the excise police launched its initiative in April 2007, the number of Indiana businesses willing to sell alcoholic beverages to minors has fallen every year.

When the Survey for Alcohol Compliance began in 2007, 33.1% of businesses were willing to sell alcohol to minors without checking identification. Rates have steadily declined since that time.

Among the businesses most willing to sell to minors this year were farm wineries (40.0%), horsetrack, satellite facilities and gaming sites (33.3%), economic redevelopment projects (12.5%), hotels (10.3%) and package stores (7.9%).

Least likely to sell alcohol to minors were civic centers (no failures), private clubs (1.2%), drug stores (3.0%) and grocery stores (3.4%). Restaurants and bars were willing to sell to minors in 6.2% of inspections, down from 8.2% last year.

The Survey for Alcohol Compliance continues to impact the number of businesses willing to sell alcoholic beverages to minors.

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on enforcing Indiana's alcohol and tobacco statutes.

ATTACHMENTS:

- (1) Non-compliance rates (by business type), Jan. 1-June 30, 2012
- (2) How the Survey for Alcohol Compliance is conducted
- (3) County-By-County Pass/Fail Rates

NON-COMPLIANCE RATES (BY BUSINESS TYPE)

JAN. 1-JUNE 30, 2012

For Survey for Alcohol Compliance data for a particular county, contact Corporal Travis Thickstun at tthickstun@atc.in.gov or 317-232-2469.

ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – 12.5% Non-Compliance
Down from 40.0% last year.

CIVIL CENTERS – 0% Non-Compliance
Down from 36.4% last year.

FARM WINERIES – 40.0% Non-Compliance
Up from 28.6% last year.

HOTELS – 10.3% Non-Compliance
Down from 20.0% last year.

HORSETRACK, SATELLITE FACILITY & GAMING SITES – 33.3% Non-Compliance
Up from 15.4% last year.

RESTAURANTS/BARS – 6.2% Non-Compliance
Down from 8.2% in 2011, 13.9% in 2010 and 44.2% in 2009.

PACKAGE STORES – 7.9% Non-Compliance
Up from 5.1% Non-Compliance last year and 7.7% in 2010. Down from 41.2% in 2009.

PRIVATE CLUBS – 1.2% Non-Compliance
Down from 2.0% in 2011, 3.6% in 2010 and 11.5% in 2009.

GROCERY STORES – 3.4% Non-Compliance
Up from 2.1% last year. Down from 4.7% in 2010 and 22.6% in 2009.

DRUG STORES – 3.0% Non-Compliance
Up from 1.0% in 2011 and 2.9% in 2010. Down from 15.4% in 2009.

HOW THE SURVEY FOR ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE IS CONDUCTED

The Survey of Alcohol Compliance is conducted by the Indiana State Excise Police to evaluate the availability of alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21. Compliance inspections consist of Excise officers and 18-20 year-old youths, who attempt to obtain alcohol at licensed retail establishments. The program has strict protocols that officers and youth must follow. Conducted in phases, the primary goal is to reduce access and availability of alcoholic beverages to Indiana youth.

From April 2007 to July 2009, officers merely gathered statistical data on rates of noncompliance. Beginning July 1, 2009, officers started the enforcement phase of the SAC program by administratively citing businesses and clerks who failed their inspections. On average, each business is inspected once or twice each year. Those establishments that fail an inspection will be re-inspected until a passing inspection occurs.